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A SURVEY OF AMERICAN BIOLOGICAL CHEMICAL LITERATURE¹

ABOUT a year ago Sparks and Noyes² prepared a census of the periodical literature of chemistry published in the United States. They selected for their study the five American chemical journals:

American Chemical Journal
Journal of the American Chemical Society
Journal of Biological Chemistry
Journal of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry
Journal of Physical Chemistry

This study showed that during the five-year period, 1909–1910 to 1914–1915, the *Journal of Biological Chemistry* gained 150 per cent. in the number of published pages; the *Journal of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry*, 78 per cent.; the *Journal of the American Chemical Society*, 88 per cent.; while the *Journal of Physical Chemistry* showed a loss in published pages of only 2 per cent. (*The American Chemical Journal* was merged with the *Journal of the American Chemical Society* in 1914).

With this study as a model and an incentive, the writer has made a somewhat similar investigation of the biological-chemical literature during the period 1907–1916. The question as to what properly belongs under the heading biological chemistry is probably open to discussion. It seems fair, however, to accept the decision of the men who are in charge of the various sections of the Biological Chemical division of *Chemical Abstracts*. All papers which are found in

¹ This study was presented before the Second Annual Conference of Biological Chemists, held at the Chemist Club, New York City, December 31, 1917.

² Sparks, Marion E., and Noyes, W. A., *SCIENCE*, 1917, 45, 168 (February 16).